

## Message Text

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11

ACTION ARA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SEC-01 JUSE-00 FTC-01 AGR-10 EB-07

COME-00 L-02 H-02 PM-03 NSC-05 SP-02 SS-15 CIAE-00

INR-07 NSAE-00 AID-05 DODE-00 STR-04 /075 W

----- 101775

R 110011Z APR 75

FM AMEMBASSY MEXICO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7151

INFO AMEMBASSY TEGUCIGALPA

UNCLAS MEXICO 3126

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, SOPN, MX, HO, US

SUBJ: MEXICAN PRESS REACTION TO SECRET PAYMENT BY UNITED BRANDS  
TO HONDURAN OFFICIALS

REF: STATE 079470

1. MEXICAN PRESS GAVE MODERATE LEVEL OF COVERAGE TO WIRE SERVICE REPORTS ON SUBJECT SCANDAL. ALL EIGHT MEXICO CITY PAPERS CARRIED THE REPORTS. ONLY ONE GAVE IT BANNER HEADLINES. THREE OTHERS CARRIED IT ON PAGE ONE. RADIO AND TELEVISION HAVE ALSO CARRIED BRIEF REPORTS ON THE SCANDAL.

2. EL UNIVERSAL HEADLINED STORY "CHARGED THAT PRESIDENT OF HONDURAS, LOPEZ ARELLANO, WAS BRIBED BY UNITED BRANDS" AND CARRIES FRENCH PRESS WIRESERVICE REPORT THAT THE US. SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION FILED CHARGES AGAINST UB ON APRIL 9. THE UB COMMUNIQUE AND WALL STREET JOURNAL REPORTS WERE CITED EXTENSIVELY. PHOTO OF UB PRESIDENT BLACK AND THE HONDURAN PRESIDENT APPEARED ON PAGE ONE. IN FOLLOW ON STORY, RAFAEL ALONSO OF FRENCH PRESS ASSERTS THAT LATIN AMERICAN DIPLOMATS IN WASHINGTON ADMITTED THAT THE UB SCANDAL IN HONDURAS IS ONLY AN EXAMPLE OF A SITUATION WHICH EXTENDS THROUGHOUT THE HEMISPHERE. HE QUOTES AN UNNAMED CENTRAL AMERICAN DIPLOMAT AS SAYING: "IF OTHER  
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MULTINATIONALS WOULD REVEAL, AS UNITED BRANDS DID, THEIR

DEALINGS BELOW THE TABLE WITH HIGH OFFICIALS OF LATIN  
AMERICAN GOVERNMENTS, IT WOULD ENDANGER THE LEADERS OF  
MANY OF THE HEMISPHERE'S POLITICAL GROUPS."

3. TO DATE THERE HAS BEEN NO EDITORIAL COMMENT OR  
REACTION BY LOCAL POLITICAL LEADERS.  
JOVA

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NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** BRIBERY, PRESS COMMENTS, ALLEGATIONS  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 11 APR 1975  
**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** n/a  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** n/a  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:**  
**Disposition Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1975MEXICO03126  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** N/A  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Film Number:** D750128-0049  
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**Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
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**Line Count:** 68  
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**Office:** ACTION ARA  
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**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
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**Reference:** 75 STATE 079470  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Authority:** ShawDG  
**Review Comment:** n/a  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 29 SEP 2003  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review History:** RELEASED <29 SEP 2003 by SilvaL0>; APPROVED <02 JAN 2004 by ShawDG>  
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**Review Referrals:** n/a  
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**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** MEXICAN PRESS REACTION TO SECRET PAYMENT BY UNITED BRANDS TO HONDURAN OFFICIALS  
**TAGS:** PFOR, SOPN, BBAK, MX, HO, US, UNITED BRANDS, (LOPEZ ARELLANO, OSWALDO)  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
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